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Serial No. 10/654,203
Attorney Docket No. RL-2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Rakowski

Group Art Unit 1745

Serial No. 10/654,203

Filed September 3, 2003

Examiner R. Alejandro

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: Title: OXIDATION RESISTANT
: FERRITIC STAINLESS STEEL
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Confirmation No. 5809

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
July 6, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The above-referenced application includes claims 1-98. In the Examiner's June 16, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner requires restriction of the present application for purposes of further examination to the claims of one of the following six invention groups:

- | | | | |
|------|--------------|-----|--------------|
| I. | Claims 1-28 | IV. | Claims 49-76 |
| II. | Claims 29-34 | V. | Claims 77-87 |
| III. | Claims 35-48 | VI. | Claims 88-98 |

In response, Applicant hereby elect, without traverse, Invention Group I, claims 1-28, for further consideration in the present application.

"Express Mail" mailing label number EQ603936928US

Date of Deposit July 6, 2006

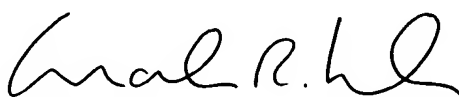
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Patricia A. Mach

In the Office Action, the Examiner requires under 35 U.S.C. § 121 that Applicant also elect a single disclosed species from among four purported species for prosecution on the merits and to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. In response to this requirement, Applicant hereby elects Species 1, which the Examiner identifies as being the embodiment described in Example 1 of the present application. Claims within Invention Group I that read on the embodiment described in Example 1 include at least claims 1-5, 7-13, 15-22, 25 and 26.

Applicant believes that the elected claims are in condition for allowance and, therefore, respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance at an early date. Should the Examiner, however, conclude that the elected claims are other than in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned so that the Examiner's concerns may be addressed expeditiously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark R. Leslie", written over a horizontal line.

Mark R. Leslie
Registration No. 36,360

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